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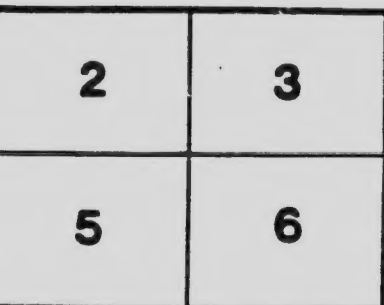
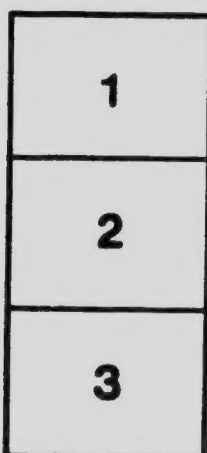
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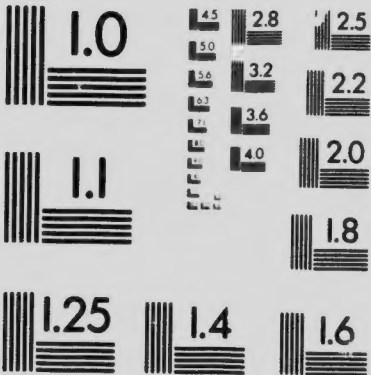
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Stuffing the Pay Lists

**The Patronage Evil in the
Civil Service**

The Liberal Policy

In 1908 the Laurier Government placed the sole control of the appointments to the Inside Service in the hands of an independent Commission, and it was the express intention to extend this control to the Outside Service just as soon as this could be properly and effectively done.

**Contrast this with the
Record of the Borden
Government since 1911**

Published by Central Information Office of the Canadian Liberal Party
Ottawa, March 1915

PUBLICATION NO. 27

PAAP
JL
197.15
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no. 27

The Borden Promise

At Halifax, in undertaking, if elected, to institute what he called Civil Service Reform, Mr. Borden said: "To use the power of filling positions in the public service as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. . . . A private trustee so dishonoring his office would be subject to punishment by the criminal law.

The Borden Practice

New Appointments since Oct., 1911.....	25,613
Dismissed, resigned and deserted.....	<u>13,466</u>
Net increase in Civil Servants Oct. 1911 to Feb., 1915	12,147

Stuffing the Pay Lists

It has been well known, in a general way, that when the Borden Government took office they proceeded to overturn the Canadian tradition in regard to the security of tenure of men who had been appointed to positions in the public service. But not until a return was brought down in answer to a demand made in the present session of Parliament was there the means of knowing to what lengths the application of the spoils system had been carried.

When the Conservatives were defeated in 1896, they had been in office for eighteen years, and during that whole period their appointees to office had been exclusively from amongst their own supporters. There followed a very strenuous demand from Liberals to be appointed to office. The Laurier Government resisted these demands. The Liberal press took strong ground against any resort to the pernicious spoils system. Liberals had to wait until, in the normal course of events, their opportunity came. Had the Laurier Government lasted only four years there would have been but few Liberal appointees. As it held office for fifteen years, there were, in the nature of things, a good many.

Then, after fifteen years, the Conservatives took office again. Did they follow the example of the Laurier Government in resisting the pressure of their friends? Did the Conservative press follow the example of the Liberal press and take strong ground against the spoils system? Neither the one nor the other. The Ministers dismissed Liberal appointees and put Conservatives in their places. The press never whispered an objection.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT BARES THE TRUTH

We now know to what extent the system of political persecution of office holders was carried.

The Government report shows that between October 10, 1911, and February 10, 1915, three years and four months, there were:

5099 dismissed
7994 resigned

The record for dismissal is bad enough. It shows that all the departments submitted to the malign influence of Hon. Robert Rogers, the most open exponent of the use of the spoils system as a factor in practical politics.

But it is manifest to everybody, also, that the 7994 resignations were, with a few trifling exceptions, the equivalent of dismissals, the spirit of resignation, as Sir Wilfrid Laurier said, was never manifested in the civil service before.

Nineteen thousand victims of the spoilsman's axe, therefore, is the first item disclosed by this return to parliament.

But the evil did not stop there. For every one who was put out, two were put in.

Dismissals and resignations were 13,093
New appointments were 25,613

FIRE ONE LIBERAL; HIRE TWO TORIES

Turn one Liberal out to put two Conservatives in his place. Devotion to the spoils system could no farther go.

So that, when Mr. White pleaded that Canada must bear to be taxed or stop sending soldiers, he could just as accurately have said that Canada must either bear to be taxed or do without this new and quite unnecessary army of 12,520 office holders, appointed because they were Conservative partisans and for whose services there was no need.

Was there any need? Let us see.

In the Department of Agriculture, 138 were put out, 579 were put in their places. What mighty effort has been put forth to call for that?

In the Customs, 465 were put out, 1649 were put in. The cost of collecting the Customs revenue was \$2,187,000 in 1911; in 1914, it had risen to \$3,849,000. The cost will continue on that scale, although the revenue itself is falling off enormously.

Our Indians are a disappearing race. Yet 257 officials turned out and replaced by 295 in the Indian Department.

Immigration had reached its maximum before Laurier went out. Yet 145 officers put out were replaced by 343, and in the rest of the Interior Department 683 officials were put out to make places for 1651.

In the Justice Department there were 20 dismissals, 122 resignations, 258 appointments.

The Borden Government was going to abolish the Naval service. It made a good start, with 484 dismissals and 624 resignations. But the war came along and there were 1782 new appointments.

THE POST OFFICE RECORD

But it was in the Post Office that the big work was done. They dismissed 166 civil servants. They induced 606 to resign. And to save the service from the disorganization sure to result, they appointed—how many? 750? No! 1000? No! 2000? No! 3000? Higher yet. 3312. Excelsior.

Hold! The postmasters have been forgotten. And yet they distinguished themselves. No fewer than 1341 were dismissed. On that, an epidemic of "resignations" followed. Superinduced thereto by gentle prodding, 3254 postmasters "resigned." Must the people be left without letters? Far from it. New postmasters to the number of 6591 were appointed.

In presence of this record, the efforts to instal the spoils system in the other departments were relative failures. In the inner service of the Public Works, only 125 men were needed to replace 28. In the outer service, only 1208 were got rid of, and 1877 put in their place.

In the Inland Revenue service, only 292 were appointed in the places of 122.

In Mr. White's own department, Finance, 199 replaced 29. Labor was neglected, 45 officials being replaced by 60.

Sir George Foster, being the only Minister of the old school, saw 54 go out and only 49 come in. In the circumstances, this entitles him to the knighthood.

The Marine Department made a record of 464 dismissals, 340 "resignation" and 1608 appointments, or rather better than two for one.

The Intercolonial Railway, as everybody knows, is immune from the operation of the spoils system. That is why there were only 363 dismissed, 769 "resignations" and 2076 appointments, or hardly two for one.

The Transcontinental, being near completion, was the occasion of a general disappointment. True, 301 were dismissed, and 241 resigned, but only a beggarly 200 were appointed.

The Welland Canal, however, while yielding only 10 dismissals and 32 resignations, brought in 225 new appointments.

In its way, this all helps to explain how, with the evidences of receding prosperity staring them in the face, the Borden Government succeeded in increasing the cost of the services chargeable to revenue from

to	\$ 88,000,000 in 1911
and	127,000,000 in 1914
	140,000,000 in 1915



